

help educate the public about fish and their habitats. These measures enhance the quality of life for people of all ages and continue a vital legacy of environmental stewardship.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, GEORGE W. BUSH, President of the United States of America, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the Constitution and laws of the United States, do hereby proclaim June 2 through June 8, 2002, as National Fishing and Boating Week. During this week, I encourage people of the United States to participate in the thousands of local events scheduled in communities throughout the United States, offering hands-on opportunities for families and friends to share in these recreational activities.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this thirty-first day of May, in the year of our Lord two thousand two, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and twenty-sixth.

GEORGE W. BUSH

**Proclamation 7570 of June 4, 2002**

**National Homeownership Month, 2002**

*By the President of the United States of America  
A Proclamation*

Homeownership is an important part of the American Dream. As President, I am committed to helping many more Americans achieve that dream. A home provides shelter and a safe place where families can prosper and children can thrive. For many Americans, their home is an important financial investment, and it can be a source of great personal pride and an important part of community stability.

Homeownership encourages personal responsibility and the values necessary for strong families. Where homeownership flourishes, neighborhoods are more stable, residents are more civic-minded, schools are better, and crime rates decline. Thanks to the resources available in our Nation, more Americans own homes today than at any time in our history. However, among African American and Hispanic families, fewer than half are home owners. My Administration is working to provide all families with the tools and information they need to accumulate wealth and overcome barriers to homeownership.

The Department of Housing and Urban Development is partnering with State and local governments, community groups, and the private sector to make the most effective use of Federal funds. Through a combination of down payment assistance, tax incentives, and education about the process and responsibilities of homeownership, we are helping thousands of Americans buy homes and pursue a better quality of life.

During National Homeownership Month, I encourage all Americans to learn more about financial management and to explore homeownership opportunities in their communities. By taking this important step, individuals and families help safeguard their financial futures and contribute to the strength of our Nation.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, GEORGE W. BUSH, President of the United States of America, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the Constitution and laws of the United States, do hereby proclaim June 2002 as National Homeownership Month. I call upon the people of the United States to join me in recognizing the importance of providing all our citizens a chance to achieve the American Dream.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this fourth day of June, in the year of our Lord two thousand two, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and twenty-sixth.

GEORGE W. BUSH

**Proclamation 7571 of June 5, 2002**

**National Child's Day, 2002**

*By the President of the United States of America*

*A Proclamation*

Children bring joy and challenge to the lives they touch. And as our next generation of leaders, they carry with them the hope of our Nation. From the excitement of watching a toddler take a first step to the satisfaction of seeing them mature into adulthood, we are blessed to share our lives and experiences with children. Their thoughts, ideas, and unique perspectives renew our appreciation for life.

National Child's Day is a time to affirm our commitment as parents, teachers, and citizens to the health, well-being, and success of our children. Our goal must be to make sure that all children have the opportunity to learn and succeed. To achieve this, we must use the resources of our families, communities, schools, and government to ensure that no child is left behind.

My Administration is strongly committed to helping boys and girls grow up in secure families that help them reach their full potential. Families forge values where children can find fulfillment and love. And children who are surrounded by love, support, and encouragement can develop self-esteem and have a strong foundation for life.

We are working to implement programs and initiatives that help families stay strong and intact; that support adoption efforts and mentoring programs; that protect children from abuse and neglect; and that encourage alcohol, drug, and sexual abstinence. We also are making great progress in helping all schools become places where every student is able and expected to learn.

While government can provide much to support children, it cannot provide the love a child needs. I encourage all community leaders, educators, faith-based organizations, and citizens to seek opportunities to mentor, encourage, and listen to our children. As we observe National Child's Day, we should also communicate to young people that their dreams, aspirations, happiness, and well-being are important to us and to our future.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, GEORGE W. BUSH, President of the United States of America, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the Con-